

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 6, 1974/Phalgun
15, 1895 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Bhagatram Rajaram Manhar
(Janjgir).

Shri Niral Enem Horo (Khunti).

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Horo is very
welcome back in Lok Sabha.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Shortage of Raw Material in Small
Scale Industry in Kerala

*201. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAN-
KAPPAN: Will the Minister of INDUS-
TRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great shortage of
raw materials for some small scale in-
dustries in the State of Kerala;

(b) whether many industries have been
closed down due to non-availability of
raw materials; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Gov-
ernment to ensure adequate supply there-
of?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-
LOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ZIAUR RAH-

MAN ANSARI): (a) to (c). A statement
is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is a general shortage of raw
materials all over the country including
Kerala.

(b) This Ministry has no information
regarding closure of units on account of
shortage of raw materials in Kerala.

(c) Efforts are being made by Govern-
ment to make additional allocation of
raw materials to small scale units de-
pending upon availability.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAN-
KAPPAN: In the statement the Minister
has stated that the Ministry has no in-
formation in regard to the closure of units
on account of shortage of raw material
in Kerala. May I know whether it is not
a fact that in the cashew industry about
185 factories have been closed down for
the last three months and, as a result of
that, about two lakhs of workers are
thrown out of employment?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRA-
MANIAM): The term "small scale in-
dustry" has a certain connotation and,
if I remember aright, the cashew indus-
try does not come under that category.
Still, we sent a message to the Kerala
Government to find out whether any fac-
tories have been closed down for want
of raw materials, apart from the small-
scale sector. Unfortunately, we have not
received any reply from them.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THAN-
KAPPAN: I think the cashew industry